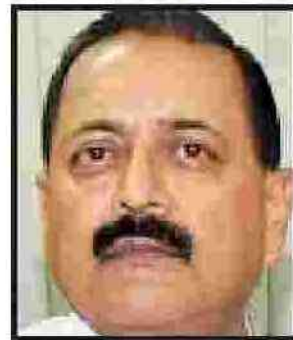


# Cabinet clears ₹10,900cr for 40 rocket launches

**'Nod For 30 PSLV  
& 10 GSLV Mk III  
Programmes'**

New Delhi: In a big boost to the country's space programme, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday gave financial approval of Rs 10,911 crore for the launch of 30 PSLV and 10 GSLV Mk III rockets in the next four years.



"With the Cabinet approval of Rs 4,338 crore for 10 launches of Isro's heaviest rocket GSLV Mk III (Isro's fat boy) in the next four years, we will be able to launch heavier satellites. This will be a big leap forward in space technology as we don't have to depend on foreign spaceports for launching heavier satellites," minister of state in PMO Jitendra Singh said.

"This GSLV Mk III programme has materialised and evolved in the last three to four years under the Modi government. It is in keeping with the Make-in-India programme and is totally an indigenous programme. With the programme, Isro will be able to launch not only mini satellites

**"GSLV mission is in keeping with the Make-in-India programme and is totally an indigenous mission"**

**JITENDRA SINGH**  
Minister of State, PMO

of foreign countries but also foreign satellites of over 4 tonne weight," he added.

Singh said, "The Cabinet has also given approval for 30 launches of PSLV rockets with the financial sanction of Rs 6,573 crore." He said private participation in Isro space programmes is also being encouraged recently.

"Besides other space missions, India should look forward to the upcoming Chandrayaan-2 launch in October-November as it will be a significant achievement in space programme for the country," the minister said.

Talking to TOI after the Cabinet approval, Isro chairman K Sivan said, "The increase in satellite launches in the areas of communication, earth observation and navigation will not only be important for our space agency but also benefit the common man."

Sivan said, "The financial sanction for 40 rockets is in line with the vision of PM Modi, who wants to push the use of space technology in social and development programmes of the government for the benefit of the masses."